

Response Under 37 CFR 1.116
Expedited Procedure
Examining Group 1733

#14/BB
TL 9/9/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

On 9/4/03 Re: **US Patent Application 09/746,732**
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OK TO ENTER
OK AS ENTERED

Filed December 21, 2000
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SEP 05, 2003

Further Amendment After Final Action

Dear Examiner Goff:

In further response to the Office Action mailed March 31, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows. A complete set of the amended claims is set forth on the following pages. Applicant noted that certain claim dependencies were incorrect in the Amendment After Final Action mailed on September 2, 2003. The following listing changes the dependency of claims 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12 from claim 7 to claim 1. Please review the current set of claims in the response to the Office Action of March 31, 2003.

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1. (Currently Amended) Process for producing a laminate (16), comprising at least one polymer film with information and at least one substrate, for further processing for forgery-proof documents,

in which a film (24), comprises at least one polymer film (17) with supporting films (23) arranged at least on both sides, is fed to a first processing station (31), and, in the first processing station (31), at least one supporting film (23) is delaminated on a first side of the polymer film (17), after which at least one substrate (18) is laminated on by an adhesive and subsequently exposed to a crosslinking-active UV radiation and

in which a laminate (44) comprising at least one polymer film (17), at least one supporting film (23) on one side, and at least one substrate (18) on the other side of the polymer film (17) led out from the first processing station (31) is fed to a second processing station (51), and at least one supporting film (23) on the other side of the at least one polymer film (17) is delaminated on a second side of the laminate (44), after which and at least one substrate (19) is laminated on the other side to the at least one polymer film (17) by an adhesive and subsequently exposed to a crosslinking-active UV radiation.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently amended) Process according to Claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the laminate (16) is led out from the second processing station (51, 51') and wound up on a supply roll (66) or is fed to a downstream processing station.

4. (Currently amended) Process according to one of the preceding Claim//s// 1, characterized in that a film (24), comprising a polymer film (17) with information

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and supporting films (23) arranged on both sides, is drawn off from at least one supply roll (22) or from a prior processing device and is fed to a first processing station (31, 31').

5. (Original) Processing according to Claim 1, characterized in that the first and second processing stations (31, 51) have a roller (38, 58), on the circumference of which there are positioned in each case at least one delaminating device (32, 52), at least one laminating device (34, 54) and at least one curing device (41, 61).

6. (Original) Processing according to Claim 5, characterized in that the roller (38, 58) of the first and second processing stations (31, 51) is wrapped around by the laminate (44) and the laminate (16) by at least 180°, preferably 270°.

7. (Currently amended) Process according to Claim 1, characterized in that the adhesive between the first substrate (18) and the polymer film (17) is cured by the a curing device (41) at least before reaching the second processing station (51).

8. (Currently amended) Process according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 7
1, characterized in that a polyethylene film is used as the substrate (18, 19).

9. (Currently amended) Process according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 7
1, characterized in that the substrate (18, 19) is subjected to a corona treatment.

10. (Currently amended) Process according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 7
1, characterized in that a photo-polymer film, which is at least partially exposed and preferably provide with holograms, is used as the polymer film (17).

11. (Currently amended) Process according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 7
1, characterized in that a first and a second supply roll (22, 22') is used and arranged downstream of the supply rolls (22, 22') is a splicing device (27), by

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which, after one supply roll (22//, 22') has been used up, the film (24) of the further supply roll (22, 22') is joined with a butt joint for the continuous processing

12. (Currently amended) Process according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 7

1, characterized in that a storage device (28), from which film is taken while the supply rolls (22, 22') are being changed over, is provided between the supply roll (22, 22') and the first processing station (31).

13. (Currently amended) Apparatus for producing a laminate (16), comprising at least one polymer film (17) with information and at least one substrate, for further processing for forgery-proof documents, ~~in particular~~ for carrying out the process according to ~~one of Claims~~ Claim 1 to 12, characterized in that a film (24), comprising at least one polymer film and supporting films (23) arranged at least on both sides, ~~can be~~ is fed to a first processing station (31), in that the first processing station (31) has at least one delaminating device (32) for a first supporting film (23) of the film (24), at least one laminating device (34) for at least a first substrate (18) and at least one curing device (41), and in that a laminate (44) formed by the first processing station (31) ~~can be~~ is fed to at least a second processing station (52), for the ~~further~~ first supporting film (23), at least one laminating device (34) for at least a second substrate (19) and at least one curing device (61).

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently amended) Apparatus according to Claim 13 or 14, characterized in that arranged upstream of the first processing station (31, 31') is at least one

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supply roll (22) for delivering the film (24) and arranged downstream of the last processing station is at least one winding-up roll (66) for storing the laminate (16).

16. (Currently amended) Apparatus according to ~~one of Claims 13 to 15~~ Claim 11, characterized in that at least two supply rolls (22, 22') are provided and a splicing device (27) is arranged between the supply rolls (22, 22') and a first processing station (31, 31').

17. (Original) Apparatus according to Claim 16, characterized in that a storage device (28) is arranged downstream of the splicing device (27).

18. (Currently amended) Apparatus according to ~~one of Claims 13 to 17~~ Claim 11, characterized in that at least one web edge control feeds the laminate (16) to a cutting mechanism (71) by means of a guide line created by exposure.

19. (Currently amended) Apparatus according to ~~one of Claims 13 to 18~~ Claim 11, characterized in that, in a cutting mechanism (71), the laminate is cut to a precise web width and the information carriers can be positioned at a defined distance from the edge of the web by means of a guide line.

20. (Currently amended) Apparatus according to ~~one of Claims 13 to 19~~ Claim 11, characterized in that at least two winding-up rolls (66), which can be changed over on the run, are provided for continuous winding up.

21. (Currently amended) Apparatus according to Claim 13 11, characterized in that the angle of wrap of a roller (38, 58) of the first and second processing stations (31, 51) is adjustable by the arrangement of guide rollers (42, 62).

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22. (Currently amended) Apparatus according to Claim 43 11, characterized in that the rollers (38, 58) of the first and second processing stations (31, 51) are driven jointly.

23. (Currently amended) Apparatus according to Claim 43 11, characterized in that the roller (38) of the first processing station (31) is driven in pulling operation and the roller (58) of the second processing station (51) is driven in pushing operation.

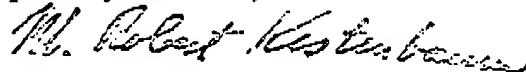
24. (Currently amended) Apparatus according to Claim 43 11, characterized in that the directions of rotation of the rollers (38, 58) of the first and second processing stations (31, 51) are opposing.

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An extension fee was paid with the submission of September 2, 2003. This
Further Amendment After Final Action merely corrects typographical errors.

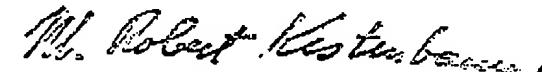
Wherefore, further consideration and allowance of the claims is respectfully
requested. This Amendment After Final Action is necessary to place the application in
condition for allowance or in better condition for appeal.

Respectfully Submitted,



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I hereby certify this correspondence is being submitted to Commissioner for Patents,
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 by facsimile transmission on September 4, 2003, fax
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